



Burney Mack, a BC freshman, converses with an inner city youth at a playground for children of parents living in low-rent housing owned and run by the Church of the Savior in D.C.



Even while the rest of the kids wait, Enloe, while another young friend



The pot's so big it takes both hands for Shannon Payne to stir the cooking spinach at the homeless shelter.

# BC to DC

*Ten BC students spend Spring Break working with and learning about the homeless*

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White House arranged by Congressman James McClure Clarke. Clarke escorted them into the Capitol Building where they sat in the House chambers and watched members of Congress vote on a bill.

While on Capitol Hill, the students spotted not only such political celebrities as Congresswoman Pat Schroeder, Congressmen Jack Kemp, Dan Rostenkowski, Barny Frank and Joe Kennedy, but also the new interim president of Hungary, Matyas Szuroes.

To John Messer, seeing both sides of D.C. was eye-opening. "When you stand on the Mall and look at the Capitol and see the Washington Monument and see a homeless person with tattered clothes, you can't help but see the powerful and the powerless in one deep glance."

Freshman Burney Mack sums up his experience, "This trip really opened my eyes to see the need for the homeless who need food, shelter, clothing and love. I believe," he adds, "it is going to take the whole world to get rid of this problem."

To freshman Dale Wicker, the trip to D.C. made him thankful. "How fortunate we are to be brought up in the environment that we have." He concludes, "That homeless person could

just as easily have been one of us!"

Freshman Shannon Payne had a lesson in racism and prejudice in the nation's capitol. "I learned that not only does it not feel good to hear someone judge you by the color of your skin but to hear those of your race show their ignorance hurts just as bad, if not more."

This group of BC students witnessed the homeless sleeping and begging in the shadows of marble monuments -- monuments which commemorate the greatness of democracy. John Messer puts it all in perspective. "Maybe the crack in the Liberty Bell does get a little bigger each time a homeless person dies."

This was BC's second spring break service work trip. Last year, a BC team traveled to Durango, Mexico, as a part of Project Inside-Out, the College's new service component. Beginning with the Class of '92, community service will be required for graduation from BC.

The BC campus community will have a chance to witness what the BC to DC work team saw and felt at a special slide show this Sunday, April 1, at 6 p.m. in McLarty-Goodson 125. The public is invited.